Vacant post of Chairman in AAI

4244. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Chairman, Airports Authority of India Ltd. (AAI) is lying vacant for the last more than one year;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) have short-listed candidates for the post of Chairman, AAI and the panel suggested by PESB is not being considered by Government; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the names suggested by PESB to Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. The post of the Chairman, Airports Authority of India fell vacant on 1st January 2002 as the incumbent of the post retired on 21.12.2001 on attaining the age of superannuation.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Public Enterprises Selection Board [PESB] have initiated the process for appointment to the post of the Chairman, Airports Authority of India, but no panel of names has yet been suggested by them.

Expenditure on advertisement

4245. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on giving advertisement in the newspapers and periodicals by Indian Airlines and Air India during the period 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (language-wise); and

(b) the names of Urdu newspapers and periodicals to whom advertisements of the Indian Airlines and Air India were given during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN):